

NANCY BOSKOFF
DIRECTOR

SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
SALT LAKE CITY ARTS COUNCIL

RALPH BECKER
MAYOR

FRANK B. GRAY
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
June 22, 2011

PRESENT:

Board Members

Allison Barclay	Helen Peters
John McCarthy	Jeanette Sawaya
Michael Mack	Logan Sisam
Bruce Miya	

Staff Members

Nancy Boskoff	Roni Thomas
Kim Duffin	Kelsey Moon
Casey Jarman	Amanda Maestas

EXCUSED:

Board Members

Candice Colby	Laura Dupuy
Rebecca Guevara	Lynn Hoffman-Brouse
Brent Schneider	

I. Call to Order/Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mack called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Mr. Mack welcomed everyone to the meeting, and acknowledged the Arts Council's newest staff member, Amanda Maestas, asking that she provide some introductory comments about herself.

Ms. Peters moved, and Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion that the minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2011, be approved as mailed. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. McCarthy moved, and Ms. Sawaya seconded the motion, that the minutes of the meeting of May 11, 2011, be approved as mailed. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Arts Events Discussion

Mr. Mack invited board members to report on arts activities they had attended in the last month. There followed a lively discussion of a long list of events and activities that had taken place in the community.

III. Budget Review and Action

Mr. Mack referred the board member to the budget document they had received via e-mail, which included the second adjusted budget for the current year and a projected budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011. He explained that in order for the Arts Council to operate in the new fiscal year, the board has to authorize an operating budget to proceed.

Mr. Mack asked Ms. Boskoff to provide additional information. Ms. Boskoff began with the second adjusted budget for the current fiscal year, noting that the revenues will be a little higher than in the first adjusted budget which should help with the bottom line. She reported that the accounting firm will begin the auditing process for this fiscal year in July, so that the board will have actual figures to review sooner than in previous years.

There followed a brief discussion including questions, addressed by Mr. Jarman, about revenues which were higher than projected, and expenses which had been reduced, for the 2011 Living Traditions Festival.

Ms. Sawaya moved, and Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion, that the second adjusted budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

For the 2011-2012 projected budget, Ms. Boskoff noted that the City had not yet approved the budget, although it looked as though there would be an increase in the Non-Departmental appropriation, as recommended by the Mayor. She reminded the board that this increase is intended to assist with public program expenses as there was an increase in the Non-Departmental appropriation for the current year designated specifically for the City Arts Grants program.

Ms. Boskoff explained that the budget situation is still of concern, and reminded the board members that in the fall, the board and staff will assess the budget and determine if any action will be necessary to maintain a balanced budget, which is the goal for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

Mr. Sisam moved, and Ms. Sawaya seconded the motion, that the projected operating budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Grants Committee – Jeanette Sawaya

Ms. Sawaya reported that the Grants Committee approved a Mini Grant in the amount of \$500 to a new dance organization called Loves DANCE More for a project that involves dance students in keeping journals about their dance experiences.

She reported that the Grants Committee had met on June 9 to review the Arts Learning grant applications for the coming year. She noted that it was exciting for the Grants Committee members to see how much is being offered in the arts for young people in the community.

As a reminder, it was noted that funding recommendations for four City Arts Grants categories (Artist-in-the-Classroom, Arts Learning, Project Support, and General Support) will be provided to the board for discussion and action at the August board meeting.

V. Twilight Stage Discussion

Mr. Jarman provided background information on this issue, explaining that it was important to have a discussion at the board level. The discussion centered around the Twilight Concert Series stage, and the fact that it is present at Pioneer Park for two months during the summer, generating some inquiries from various parties about its use.

Mr. Jarman discussed the most recent request and initiated the discussion with some of his thoughts on the topic. The board entered into a thorough discussion, addressing whether the Arts Council wants to be in the position of renting the stage to other parties. Issues that were discussed included branding of the Twilight Concert Series at its new location; public confusion, including the fact that some of the programs interested in using the stage may seem similar to the Twilight Concerts, and some may be charging an admission fee; the new initiative of the text donation campaign; existing banners and signage that are in place for the Twilight Concerts; liability and assumption of risk; and the timing of other programs.

In light of these multiple issues, the board members indicated that it might be best not to rent the stage to other parties this season. Mr. Miya moved, and Mr. McCarthy seconded the motion, that the Arts Council will not rent the Twilight Concert Series stage to other parties at this time. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Staff Reports

A. Mr. Jarman provided a review of the 2011 Living Traditions noting the attendance was up over last year, that the program reductions resulted in a tighter and still good quality event, and that the weather was much improved, compared to the previous year. He reminded the board members that some elements of the festival had been cut to address budget issues, and that overall, the program, although condensed in some areas, was very strong and well received. He discussed some of the new local artists who participated as well as the guest artists who performed on Friday and Saturday nights.

Ms. Peters commented on how important this event is in the life of our ethnic communities. Mr. Miya added that this festival serves a strong family demographic.

Mr. Jarman reported that there will be seven concerts in the 2011 Twilight Concert Series, opening on July 14. He announced several new elements, including a Facebook page, an experiment with text donations from the audience, and a power upgrade in Pioneer Park, requested by the Arts Council and funded by the Redevelopment Agency. He also reported that he had just been informed that the Arts Council will receive an Achievement Award from the Downtown Alliance in recognition of the success of the Twilight Concert Series, both for its longevity and for its contribution to the neighborhood surrounding Pioneer Park in 2010.

B. Mr. Duffin announced the 2012 visual arts exhibition season, referring board members to the handout attached to the agenda, outlining the artists who will be exhibiting their work. He noted the diversity in the season, thanks to the Visual Arts Committee members, and will include sculpture, painting, mixed media, photography and installations. He noted that the new exhibit includes a group photography show, mixed media by Dorothee Martens and by Anna Laurie McKay, and will open on Friday, June 24.

C. Ms. Thomas gave a progress report on Art in Transit, announcing that in addition to being commissioned for the artwork on the TRAX platform near the Rocky Mountain Power property on North Temple, local artist Darl Thomas has also been commissioned by Rocky Mountain Power to create a sculpture to celebrate that organization's 100th anniversary.

She noted that the Calls for Artists for the Public Safety Building and for Popperton Park have been issued. Ms. Thomas noted that she is contracting to have artwork in the City's collection to be photodocumented, explaining that there are some pieces that have not yet been photographed for the record. She is also contracting to have a current inventory completed of the artwork located in the Salt Lake City & County Building.

Ms. Thomas reported that there seems to be a recent increase in vandalism of City artwork, which has not been a serious problem in the past.

D. Ms. Moon reported that in conjunction with the new grant category of Arts Learning, she has compiled a list of organizations and locations in the community that offer arts education and arts activities for young people and is now available on the Arts Council's website.

E. Ms. Boskoff reported briefly on the annual convention of the Americans for the Arts, which she attended; on the Downtown Cultural Core planning process; and on the temporary accountant who has been of great assistance during the staff transition period.

Ms. Boskoff noted that the Executive Committee has discussed transitions in the board membership, and she has been asked to call each board member to talk about his or her experience on the board. She will bring these comments back to the Executive Committee for discussion and then to the full board.

VII. Other Business/Adjourn

A. Mr. Miya raised the issue, discussed at prior meetings, of creating a project at the Art Barn in memory of Ella Knight. He noted that suggestions included a plaque on the building or a small garden designed in her honor. He will take the lead responsibility for the project, working with Ms. Boskoff, requesting donations and keeping board members posted.

B. There being no further business, Mr. Mack adjourned the meeting at 6:45 p.m.